

Government have decided to allocate wheat and rice at Rs. 2 per kg. and Rs. 3 per kg. respectively to the poorest of the poor under the recently launched Antodaya Scheme.

Revival of the Sugar Export Promotion Act

160. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revive the Sugar Export Promotion Act;

(b) if so, whether under this Act, sugar mills in the country, *pro-rata* to their sugar production, shared the export loss;

(c) if so, whether this Act worked well till 1997;

(d) whether in this regard an ordinance was issued but could not be passed as a result thereof the Act could not come into force;

(e) whether Government have now decided to revive this Act in an improved form to boost exports; and

(f) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (f) The Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 has been repealed through an Ordinance dated 15.1.1997. Indian Sugar and General Industry Export/Import Corporation Ltd., has filed a writ petition No. 182/99 challenging its repeal in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The matter is *sub-judice*.